

A MONUMENTAL JUNKET.

THE RIDICULOUS AND SILLY WORK OF THE TARIFF COMMISSION.

The Truth About its Uselessness and Extravagance—Clerks who Do Nothing—An Outfit that was Too cumbersome to Carry—Specie that Trains, Wines, and Cigars' Government Expense—Attacking Stock.

One of its own members recently dubbed the proceedings of the Tariff Commission a farce. He spoke with full knowledge of the facts, and the public generally concurred in his opinion. Indeed, there had been well-defined and openly-expressed ideas on this very point before this frank confession was made. As the facts develop, it is seen that the perambulating Commission is not only a farce, but a great deal of a fraud. Its hotel bills run up to astonishing figures. Its luxurious habitation on the red strike the ordinary traveler with awe. Its use of carriages, its train of escorting horses, its baggage cars, its sumptuousness, and its incapacity for or indifference to, real tariff revision, are matters of common but not complimentary comment.

Everybody is familiar with the circumstances connected with the creation of this Commission. The members met in Washington and took the oath of office on July 4. Five days were spent in Washington, during which time several of the Commissioners discovered that they needed secretaries. The act creating the Commission states that the officers shall consist of a stenographer, clerk, and messenger. Could not the law be evaded? Certainly: nothing more easy. The Secretary of the Treasury was appealed to, and informed of the immense amount of clerical work which must devolve upon each Commissioner during the revision of the tariff. Judge Folger, the writer is informed, then agreed that, in addition to the clerks mentioned in the statute, four clerks should be divided among the Commissioners. President Hayes secured the clerk provided by law, who was afterward known as the chief clerk; Commissioners Oliver and Ambler took one between them; Commissioner Underwood took one himself; and son; Commissioners Keitt and one himself took one between them; Commissioner Mah-Mahon also took one; and Commissioner Garside decided to attend to their own correspondence and clerical work. The pay of the chief clerk was fixed at \$6, and that of the assistant clerks at \$5 a day, with travelling, hotel, and necessary expenses. Those clerks, with the exception of the chief, who is recognized by the statute, took no oath of office. They are paid on vouchers, and, of course, come under the "necessary expense" account.

The arduous labors of the five days in Washington were not all in vain, however, and the required rest. So upon the 11th after deciding that Long Branch was an agreeable place at which to pass the heated term, they adjourned to New York on the 12th of July. It was given out that the members were desirous of individually looking into the tariff bills, and that the party remained on the ordinary train. But the bulk of the party remained on a side track until the small hours of morning, and were reached by special engine to Butler.

When the Commission reached this point their total expenses, since taking the oath of office, had reached the neat little sum of \$23,600. By this time the aggregate must be considerably over \$35,000.

AS DUTIFUL AS MR. BARTS.

Napoleon J. Haines Says that Better Men than Himself were Bad Trustees.

Bever Best was too sick to attend the meeting of the State Committee on Insurance yesterday. He sent F. N. Bangs, an adjournment, which the committee voted to grant. Mr. Bangs put on record, on behalf of Mr. Best, a protest against the proceedings of the committee. He said that the Legislature had no right to depose the committee to make any such inquiry as it has been pursuing. He claimed that the courts had the only authority to investigate receivers. Mr. Ecclesius suggested that if Mr. Best wished to test the authority of the committee, he could refuse to obey their orders, and that as Mr. Best did not do so, the committee had no right to question the authority of the committee.

The first witness was Napoleon Haines, who was one of the trustees of the National Trust, and who told the story of the appointment of Mr. Lamb as to the least course to pursue. He thought that committee had not acted promptly, and that the trust company had not easily placed in the hands of the receiver. He believed the stockholders would have made up the impaired capital if they had been asked to do so, and that he was willing to serve as a chairman of a committee to help him to do so.

"The trust company there-to-night," he said, "is the same as the Continental Bank, and the stockholders there-to-night are the same as those of the Webster and Worcester dictionaries."

"The Secretary will see that a dictionary is procured," said the President.

Mr. Best, however, adjotted down a memorandum to buy a dictionary, and there being no other business on hand, the Commissioners voted for a adjournment until the next day.

It was Webster's Unadvised. "Oh, dear!" said President Hayes when he saw the adjournment proposed.

"We must have a Worcester," Wherewpon a Worcester Dictionary was bought, and this explains why to this date Webster's is not in our Webster's both Webster's and Worcester's dictionaries.

It was soon discovered that other books had been taken from the library, and that important work on tariff revision. One member wanted a standard encyclopedia of about sixteen volumes. He would have got it had not Dr. Folger, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, stated that all the ambiguous or scientific words with which they might be called came from the library.

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Then there was a demand for blank books, revised statutes, portfolios, Heyl's Import-Export Book, and the like. The Commercial and Industrial Commission from the South was dissatisfied with his blank book of 200 pages. He could not get along with one of less than 100 pages. He was compelled to go along with this as speedily as possible, but it is questionable whether he had filled more than a dozen pages with his manuscript.

With the arrival of the new commissioners, there was now found to be one of the prime necessities of the Commission. Time, of course, was of the utmost importance. Not to waste time, and to have the work done as quickly as possible, one was issued.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 29.—"Old Josh Eddy," the colored miser and preacher, was buried from Bethel Church on Sixth street, this morning instead of yesterday. Though the old miser apparently had no friends, the church was unfortunately crowded. The body rested in a plain pine casket, and at the head were two floral cushions. A prayer was offered by the Rev. James Thompson, after which hymns were sung. Dr. B. T. Tanner then made a brief address.

Eddy, the old miser, was a simpleton, and declared that he was the most eccentric man he had ever known, not even exceeding his brother Gardner, former preacher of the Bethel Church, who was equally eccentric.

He then closed his eyes upon Judge Cowing's face, and listened to his sentence.

Judge Cowing said that Hovey not only took the life of his wife, but also the life of his unborn babe and that of his own sick child, who was killed by the shock of his murderous act.

The expenses of the trial, the Commission, and the defense were paid by the colored man, and he had no money left.

The fifth and last race was for \$200 a mile, and a horse named "Buster" won. Jim McSwain, Black Stock, and Jim McSwain, third, and McSwain and Grimes, and Campbell, won a set and also lost one in the final race.

The fourth race, \$200 for all horses, handicap, was won by "Buster" and "Campbell."

The fifth race, \$200 for three years and upward, one mile, had eight starters. "Perpetue" won \$100; Little Devil, \$80; Perpetue, \$60; Little Devil, \$40; and McSwain, \$20.

The sixth race, \$200 for two years and upward, one mile, had six starters. "Perpetue" won \$100; Little Devil, \$80; Perpetue, \$60; Little Devil, \$40; and McSwain, \$20.

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NO FAIR YET AT HUNTERS POINT.

Sherif Wright's Reason for Not Driving with the Pool Sellers.

Hovey was convicted on Nov. 17 for the murder of his sister-in-law.

Edward Hovey, who was convicted in the General Sessions on Monday of murder in the first degree in shooting and killing his sister-in-law, Mrs. Fanny Veriniella, was arraigned yesterday for sentence. Hovey, who is slender and pallid, with dark hair and eyes, was dressed in black. He was freshly shaven, and carried a well-brushed tail in his hand. He was apparently utterly unaffected by the gravity of his crime.

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